(ख) क्या यह सच है कि बिजली की कटौती से कई लघु और बड़े उद्योग प्रभावित हुए हैं और इनमें से ऐसे कितने उद्योग हैं जो बन्द कर दिये गये हैं ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा) : (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है व सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Pension Scheme for Working Journalists

351. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating a monthly pension scheme for working journalists ; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has since decided to introduce a Pension Scheme for the EPF subscribers including working journalists.

(b) The proposed Pension Scheme provides for payment of monthly pension in the contingencies of retirement, super-annuation, permanent total disablement, death etc. The amount of monthly pension will depend upon the pensionable service and pensionable salary of the member. Minimum 10 years membership of the fund will be required for entitlement to pension.

352. [*Transferred to 14th December, 1993*].

National Wage Policy for Labour

353. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a national wage policy to secure a fair deal for labour ;

(b) whether Government are aware that the absence of such a policy is the root cause for industrial unrest and low productivity ; and

(c) whether Government would consider it expedient to constitute regional wage boards to arrest inter-state migration of labour due to disparity in minimum wages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The insue relating to formulation of a National Wage Policy has been considered by various fora in the past. A Group of State Labour Ministers in September. 1985 decided that it might not be feasible to frame a National Wage policy at the present stage. This subject was also considered by the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held in November. 1985. The ILC expressed the view that "till such time a national wage is feasible it would be desirable to have regional minimum wage in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guidelines. The minimum wages should be revised at regular periodicity and should be linked with rise in cost of living". Accordingly, the Government have issued guidelines on Regional Minimum Wages in July, 1987 to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations were also requested to provide for variable Dearness Allowance linked to consumer price index, as a part of minimum wages, to be revised every six months. As a sequel to the recommendation of the I.L.C. 1985, the Government framed guidelines on Regional Minimum Wages and the country was accordingly divided into six regions. The Conference of the Regional Labour Ministers of five regions, namely, Eastern Region, North-Eastern Region. Southern Region, Northern Region and Western Region, have already taken place to consider the regional issues relating to wages.

Visit of German Parliamentary Delegation to India

354. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that a delegation of influential German Parliamentarians